GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:614
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
STATE-WISE MINORITY STATUS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to bring 103rd Constitutional amendment seeking State-wise minority status rather than national status of minorities in the country;

(b) if so, the rationale behind this amendment;

(c) whether this amendment is in violation of article 25-30 providing protection to religious minorities;

(d) if so, the reasons for bringing this amendment;

(e) whether after this amendment some minority community are likely to lose their minority status in their respective States and deny them benefits; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure the protection of rights of minorities?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A. R. ANTULAY)

(a) to (f): The Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004, was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, 2004. This was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment which submitted its Report to the Lok Sabha in February, 2006. A final view regarding bringing official amendments to the Bill is still to be taken.